

The opinion in support of the decision being entered today was not written for publication and is not binding precedent of the Board.

Paper No. 27

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES**

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Ex parte JEAN P. PRIEELS,  
NATHALIE M.C. GARCON-JOHNSON,  
MONCEF SLAOUI, and  
PIETRO PALA

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Application No. 08/909,879

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**ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER**

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This application was received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on February 11, 2003. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below.

We are unable to locate the Fox reference relied upon by the Examiner (Examiner's Answer, Paper No. 48, mailed January 17, 2001) in the administrative file.

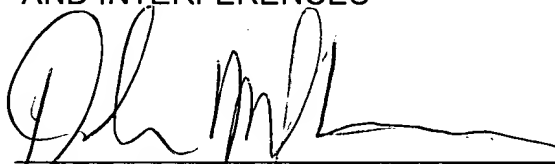
Application No. 08/909,879

Accordingly, it is

**ORDERED** that the application is returned to the Examiner to provide a complete copy of the missing reference (Fox), and for such further action as may be appropriate.

It is important that the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences be informed promptly of any action affecting the appeal (i.e., abandonment, issue, reopening prosecution).

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Dale M. Shaw', is written over a horizontal line.

Dale M. Shaw

Program and Resource Administrator  
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Application No. 08/909,879

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